

St. John's Lutheran Church

St. John's Lutheran Church is a community of people united to God and to each other by faith in Jesus Christ, called by the Holy Spirit to bear witness to the love of God and the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Our Love of witness, proclamation, nurture, service, and outreach at home and abroad will occur through faithful use of the scriptures, the sacraments, and prayer. We are motivated by our gratitude to God for his abundant gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Pastor's News
- Church News
- Church Council Minutes
- Financial Report
- Youth and Family
- Preschool

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SYNOD ASSEMBLY REFLECTIONS

This year, the North West Synod Assembly underwent a significant change moving to a one day format. The site also moved from UW-Eau Claire to Trinity Lutheran Church in Eau Claire. The last two years the synod experimented with the synod assembly by combining the event with another synod-wide event called Walking Together, which was held at UWEC in May. Bishop Hoyme announced that the financial burden to the synod along with several congregations was one significant reason to shift to a one day event and wound up increasing attendance by over 100 people while cutting costs by tens of thousands of dollars!

This year, 10 separate resolutions were passed and I feel that it's important to keep us all informed about our decisions at the assembly and how they will impact our ministry at St. John's. Because of the number of resolutions, I intend to write about them one or two at a time.

I'm going to begin with the only unanimous decision made all day long which was entitled, "Recognition of New Congregation". This resolution recognizes the newest congregation in our synod which is now called Spirit Lutheran, which is located in Eau Claire. This new congregation is the result of a consolidation between First Lutheran Church and Our Savior's Lutheran Church. These two congregations voted to form one congregation June 7, 2015 and began worshipping together on Nov. 8, 2015. Pastor Amy Odgren was called to be the pastor of Spirit Lutheran. Some of you may remember Pastor Amy's role as Assistant to the Bishop prior to returning as First Lutheran's pastor. She returned to First Lutheran following the election of Bishop Rick Hoyme.

On a personal note, I got to play with their praise band during the worship service and was amazed at their sheer talent. They are quite fortunate to have that giftedness and cohesiveness already as two congregations came together to form such a strong partnership.

When the projection screens revealed the 100% vote, we all stood and applauded this new entry and the smiles on the faces of their voting members shined like the sun! It was another great moment as we acknowledged all of the hard work that went into this consolidation and another great indication that new life is a part of God's plan!

Pastor Martin



ANNUAL ECUMENICAL GATHERING RETURNS AGAIN!

Mark your calendars for Wednesday, July 13 at 6 pm!
The Bloomer Clergy Association would like to invite you to an evening of music and food along with some family appropriate games! We will meet at the North Park once again. We will share a potluck meal with a variety of other Bloomer church members. Beverages and paper products will be provided. We will again utilize picnic tables at the Gazebo.

This is also a great opportunity to bring some of your neighborhood or work friends to gather in an informal way where relationships can be established. Please look for flyers that will share further information as it comes together!



Martin Luther: Art and the Reformation

Join us for this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to experience a close-up of Martin Luther's life. This special exhibition is at the Minneapolis Institute of Art and has more than 100 objects of Luther's personal possessions plus recent archaeological finds from his childhood and adult homes. These objects are from the Luther House in Wittenberg, Germany and traveling outside Germany for the first time ever. St. John's is planning a trip to see this exhibition on Saturday, Dec. 10th. SAVE THE DATE - more details to follow.

Church News



Tell us What You Think...

The Worship and Music Committee would like to know your thoughts on the Luther Park Service that was held this year on May 1st. This was an opportunity for St. Johns members to see the Luther Park facilities as many changes have been made in the last few years.

We had a fairly good turnout for the service, but know that many regular church members chose to not participate that Sunday. In order to evaluate whether we should continue to offer this Camp Service each year we would like your input. Please consider these questions and let one of the Worship and Music members know how you feel.

Why did you attend or not attend?

- ◆ The distance to travel was a factor?
- ◆ Concerned about the type of service – Camp versus regular service?
- ◆ Day – Sunday or Wednesday?
- ◆ You attended and enjoyed the service and good food?
- ◆ Any other reason?

Thank you in advance for your time. Please feel free to let one of us know your thoughts.

Worship and Music Committee

Janice Naset, Lisa Goettl, Jan Helgeson, Janell Barlow, Kathy Geissler, Tyler Halverson, or Nancy Schindler

ELCA Woman's Chippewa Valley Conference

2016 Retreat at Luther Park, Chetek, WI

August 17 & 18

Theme: *Be All That You Were Meant to Be!*

Presenter: *Natalia Peterson*

On Wednesday the 17th, registration begins at 12:00 p.m. and Thursday the 18th, registration begins at 7:30 a.m. You may go one day or both. Forms can be found on the bulletin board by the church office. Each person must fill out a form and prepay. Lodging is available at the park as well.



Quilting

Tuesday, July 26, 2016

1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Everyone is welcome!!

Food Pantry-There will be a special offering taken in July, August and September for the support of the Food Pantry. As the community is part of our family and our lives we hope and pray that we can all open our hearts to giving in support of the Food Pantry.

Thank you, St. John's Social Ministry Committee

Council Meeting June, 7, 2016

Meeting called to order: by President Rod Johnson at 6:30 p.m.

Opening devotion: given by Nick Zakrzewicz

Report on Synod Assembly: Phil Skaar gave a report on Synod Assembly

Approval of agenda: Motion made by Lynette Pank, seconded by Adam Ewings to approve agenda. Motion carried.

Approval of May 10th minutes: Motion by Nick Zakrzewicz, seconded by Ellyn Hudacek to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Council and congregational concerns: None

Chair report: There will be a Martin Luther exhibit in Minneapolis October 30 - January 15, this is something we should look in to going to.

Financial report: A motion was made by Tyler Halverson seconded by Nick Zakrzewicz to approve the financial report. Motion carried.

Committee/Mission reports:

- . **Discipleship** - Financial seminar in the fall, also a presentation on Simply Giving
- . **Fellowship** - Discussion on Rally Day, whether to have it on Sunday or Wednesday, a committee member from the Fellowship Committee, Worship Committee and Youth Committee will meet with Pastor Martin to plan the event.
- 2 people went to the Express game, Horseshoes maybe later
- . **Property:** There are leaks in the office
- . **Social Ministry:** Meals on Wheels for July, volunteers are needed. Ellyn Hudacek and Pastor Martin attended a seminar "Wisconsin Faithful Citizenship Initiative" developing a Poverty Statement

Council Meeting

- . **Worship/Music:** Luther Park was discussed and we need better PR, the balcony computer died and will purchase a new one, purchased a resource book for Pastor Martin, new lamp on the piano, Walking Together was discussed, traditional Lord's Prayer will be used for the summer months, change slide show to communion time, Rally Day, installation of Preschool staff
- . **Youth/Family:** Review Confirmation Purpose and Responsibilities. Mission Trip 8 youth and 2 adults, bus fundraisers \$6,348.25, medication on the trip, a policy was put in place. Vacation Bible School- registrations are coming in. Discussion on Senior High Recognition, Bible distribution, Camp sponsorships
- . **Dream Team:** Home improvement grant approved

Pastor's report: Membership update: Membership by baptism; Lily LaGesse, **Transfer member to Church Triumphant;** Cynthia Bitney, **Transfer in;** Jesse, Whitney and Sophia Price. Motion made by Tom Buchner and seconded by Tyler Halverson to approve membership changes. Motion carried.

Visitation: Hospital - Cynthia Bitney, Art Klingenberg, Marie Weideman, Richard Mohr, pastoral care visits and counseling, communion visits, and High School open houses

Vacation Schedule: Pastor Martin informed the council of his upcoming vacation, Martha Libersky will be covering

Old Business: Web Site - No updates at this time

New Business: Membership review - will be getting an updated list of active and inactive members

Military Outreach - discussion

Pastor Martin's yearly evaluation- upcoming in July and August

Motion was made by Tyler Halverson, seconded by Nick Zakrzewicz to adjourn at 8:15. Motion carried

Pastor Martin led us in the Lord's Prayer.

Janice Naset, acting Secretary

Meeting attended by: Pastor Martin, Rod Johnson, Tom Buchner, Adam Ewings, Lynette Pank, Ellyn Hudacek, Nick Zakrzewicz, Phil Skaar, Tyler Halverson, Janice Naset

Absent: Pauline Stertz and Alice Zinsmaster

JULY 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>26 9:00 AM Worship Service 6:00 PM Camp Staff Dinner</p>	<p>27 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM Bible Study 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM 1st day of VBS</p>	<p>28 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM VBS</p>	<p>29 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM VBS 6:45 PM Worship and Baptism for Tenley Eastlyn Peterson</p>	<p>30 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM VBS 5:45 PM VBS Meal 6:15 PM VBS Program</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>
<p>3 9:00 AM Worship Service and Baptism for Brynleigh Rose Price</p>	<p>4 Celebrate THE FOURTH Church Office is Closed 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM No Bible Study</p>	<p>5 11:00 AM Staff Meeting</p>	<p>6 6:45 PM Worship Service and Baptism for Clayton & Cooper Ludwigson</p>	<p>7 7:00 PM Preschool Board Meeting</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p>
<p>10 9:00 AM Worship Service</p>	<p>11 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM Bible Study</p>	<p>12 6:30 PM Church Council Meeting</p>	<p>13 6:00 PM Eccumenical Picnic in the Park 6:45 PM Worship</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>
<p>17 9:00 AM Worship Service</p>	<p>18 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM Bible Study</p>	<p>19 11:00 AM Staff Meeting 6:15 PM Youth Committee Meeting</p>	<p>20 6:45 PM Worship</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>
<p>24 9:00 AM Worship Service</p>	<p>25 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM Bible Study</p>	<p>26 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Quilting</p>	<p>27 6:45 PM Worship</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>
<p>31 9:00 AM Worship Service 12:00 PM St. John's Preschool float in the Bloomer Parade</p>	<p>1 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM Bible Study</p>	<p>2 11:00 AM Staff Meeting</p>	<p>3 6:45 PM Worship</p>	<p>4 7:00 PM Preschool Board Meeting</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>



Financial Report-2016

	2015	2016	BUDGET 2016
Beg. Balance - Jan. 1	\$2,143.00	\$4,401.00	
Income-May-June	\$98,903.00	\$98,064.00	\$119,024.00
Expenses-May-June	\$107,435.00	\$106,201.00	\$119,024.00
Balance-June 20	(\$6,390.00)	(\$3,736.00)	
Loan - Security Financial	\$76,750.00	\$71,131.00	General Fund
Loan - Security Financial		\$3,367.00	Bathrooms

I AM SENDING YOU OUT AS  **LAMBS** IN THE MIDST OF  **WOLVES.**
 Luke 10:3, ESV

SUMMER CAMP AT LUTHER PARK

OFF TO CAMP WE GO

Ryanna Keller, Dylan Halom, Abrina Hillman, Kylee Hintz, Gabriel Hillman, Dominick Meisner, Jaden Halom, Nicholas Halom, Driah Zakrzewicz, Rose Meisner, Morgan Sarauer, Alex Sarauer, Blaine Yeakey, Kennady Prill, Sydney Prill, Camryn Yeakey, Kelly Yeakey, Isabelle Hillman, Nic Zakrzewicz, & Brooke Forss are spending time at Luther Park this summer



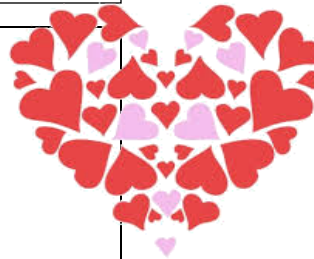
2015-2016 FAITH FORMATION SCHEDULES

Watch the newsletter and worship announcements for information concerning dates and times for fall Faith Formation.



THANK YOU

To all members of St. John's and friends from the Bloomer Community who gave support to Sr. High Youth attending the Week of Hope Mission Trip with prayers and financial contributions. We could not have done it without you!

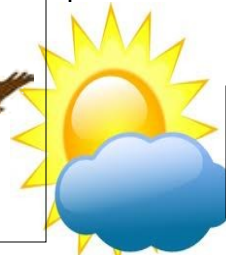


Life is a gift.
Unwrap the present.

Blessings, Marla



- ◆ In the busyness of our lives, God calls us to be still,
- ◆ God calls us to a quiet place
- ◆ To know Him
- ◆ To discover ourselves
- ◆ To be renewed
- ◆ To refocus our lives



WEATHER ALERT!

Summer fun in the sun can be harmful to your health! Stay hydrated. Don't forget the sunscreen.

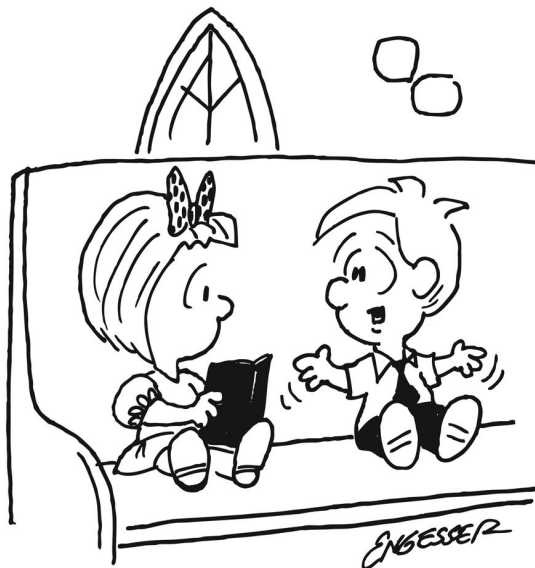
"It takes courage to grow up and become who you really are."

e.e. cummings

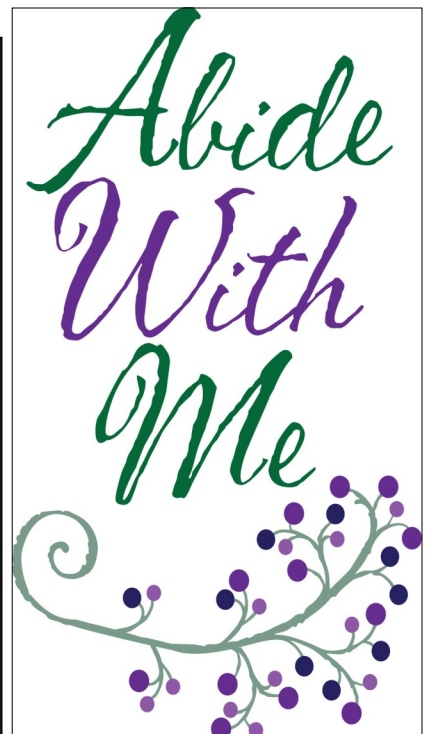
**Wherever you go,
no matter what
The weather,
Always bring
Your own
Sunshine.**



"Why fit in when you were born to stand out!"



"If we're all dust, why take a bath before the service?"





“We cannot become what we need by remaining what we are.”

“Relationships are at the heart of every positive human experience.”

These two quotes from author, speaker and Pastor John Maxwell apply to the cross generational faith webbing methods available to strengthen and support each other as we move forward to from just knowing the bible stories in our heads to making them a living part of our hearts and daily lives. Growing a faith foundation is based on weaving a faith web across generations, sharing relationships and life experiences together to strengthen the faith community that we call St. John’s Lutheran church.

I lead a women’s study group during the course of the year. What does this have to do with cross generational faith formation? I introduced the faith webbing process during our last time together before summer break. I asked the members to take a graph and fill in the blanks at their leisure to discover how many people had influenced their faith journey. This same graph was given to a group of teens to complete. There are several circles included in the graph. The circle in the middle of the page is the space where you enter your name. There are five circles that extend from the inner circle. Each circle is designated for a specific group of people that has contributed to your faith journey. The circles are Parent age people, Grandparent people, College Age people, Peers, and Younger children, creating the web of faith that has had a significant influence on your faith journey. You may be thinking what does this have to do with faith formation at St. John’s.

I was introduced to this graph during a webinar that I participated in. It took some time for me to come up with the suggested 6 names of people to put in each one of the circles who would have participated in creating my faith web. You see I was not the kid who attended worship and Sunday school on a regular basis. However, when I became old enough to attend confirmation class, they faithfully took me each Saturday morning for instruction. I was definitely a fish out of water and went because my parents said I had to. In thinking back through my faith journey, I would have to say that during my time at confirmation class, Jesus showed up in the adult teacher who was there each week making sure that I felt loved and welcome. From that point on, I went to worship as often as I could. When my children were old enough to attend Sunday school, I volunteered to teach and grew in faith along with them. My point being it was difficult for me to determine the people who played an important part of my faith web that has continued to grow into a faith community and is nurtured each time I worship as well as participate in faith growth outside of St. John’s Lutheran church. God continues to pull on the strings of my heart to share him with others by being involved in relationships with his people. The stories that I learned from that kind teacher in confirmation have gone from my head to my heart so that I smile when I think about how big my faith web has become. We have the opportunity to grow faith webs with everyone that we encounter, young and old alike. What an exciting journey GOD as planned for us when we open our hearts and minds to the challenges of stepping out to move from teaching the bible stories to sharing the stories through building cross generational faith webs that last a life time.

Blessings, Marla



St. Johns Preschool for 3 and 4 year olds has open enrollment!

Register your child today!

We are a licensed preschool through the state of WI, since 1995.

We offer a low child to teacher ratio with only 10 children per class.

There are four classes available for children who turn 3 by September 1st 2016 and four-year olds.

Our creative curriculum includes music, art, literacy, and free play with learning centers.

We offer large and small motor activities, one-on-one learning activities and many more experiences to help your children grow and develop.

Enrollment is not dependent upon or restricted by affiliation with St. John's Lutheran Church.

Call Heather Philipps at 715-828-3412 for more information or to register your child.

Spots are limited! Call today!

St. John's preschool, an interdenominational program, offers services to all eligible children regardless of race, color, and national or ethnic origin. All children of Bloomer and the surrounding communities are welcome!